CCR 2018

Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from?

All of the public drinking water for Florence Township comes from 6 ground water wells located near the municipal building. The wells pump from the (PRM) Potomac-Raritan-Magothy aquifer at depths of 120-150 feet. The water is pumped to a central treatment plant then into the potable water system for public consumption.

Source water assessment and its availability

The NJDEP has completed and issued the Source Water Assessment Report & Summary for this public water system which is available at www.state.nj.us/dep/swap/ or by contacting NJDEP Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at (609)292-5550. The source water assessment determines the potential for contamination not the existence of contamination. Public water systems are required to monitor for regulated contaminants and to install treatment if any contaminants are detected at frequencies and concentrations above allowable levels. If a system is rated highly susceptible for a contaminant category, it DOES NOT mean a customer is or will be consuming contaminated water. The ratings only reflect the potential for contamination. As a result of the assessments, NJDEP may customize monitoring schedules based on susceptibility ratings. Our wells were rated against 8 categories: 1.Pathogens-Low 2.Nutrients-High 3.Pesticides-Medium 4.Volatile Organic Compounds-High 5.Inorganics-High 6.Radionuclides-High 7.Radon-Medium 8.Disinfection By Products Precursor-Medium. Please keep in mind this is s summary of the report and the full report is available on the website.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity, microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses; organic Chemical Contaminants, including

synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

How can I get informed?

If you want to know more about the water & sewer utility, you can contact David Lebak, Director at 609-499-2518. You may also attend our regularly scheduled Council meetings held at the Florence Township Municipal Building located at 711 Broad Street. Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 8PM.

Description of Water Treatment Process

Your water is treated by disinfection. Disinfection involves the addition of chlorine or other disinfectant to kill dangerous bacteria and microorganisms that may be in the water. Disinfection is considered to be one of the major public health advances of the 20th century.

Water Conservation Tips

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference - try one today and soon it will become second nature.

- Take short showers - a 5 minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Water plants only when necessary.
- Fix leaky toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!
- Visit www.epa.gov/watersense for more information.

Source Water Protection Tips

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides - they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public water system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting one. Use EPA's Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community, or visit the Watershed Information Network's How to Start a Watershed Team.
- Organize a storm drain stenciling project with your local government or water supplier. Stencil a message next to the street drain reminding people "Dump No Waste - Drains to River" or "Protect Your Water." Produce and distribute a flyer for households to remind residents that storm drains dump directly into your local water body.

Important Information

WATER
Check your water meter & main shut off valve near the meter. Does the shutoff valve work? You may need it in an emergency. It is recommended you flush your water heater twice per year in May & October. To flush, hook a hose to the heater's bottom hose bib and turn the hose bib all the way on allowing the water to run outside or into a sink until it runs clear. When clear, shut off and disconnect the hose. If you have a home water filter, please change the filter per the manufacturers' recommendations. If you have an irrigation system, it is recommended you have a separate irrigation meter installed to save money on your water bill, please contact us for details.
SEWER
The toilet is not a "trash can". Please pay attention to what is placed into the toilet or sewer drain. Wipes, diapers, feminine products and other bulky items could cause sewer backups in your lateral or our public main. Also, grease and oils should not be put down the drain as over time, they will also cause back ups. Oil, solvents, PCB's, fuels and other chemicals should not be put down the drain as they will pass through the treatment plant and will end up getting into the environment. Below grade plumbing in the basement should be plumbed properly to prevent sewer back ups into the basement. Open ended pipes should be capped and controlled to prevent sewer back flows.
Please call Florence Township Water & Sewer for any questions or concerns with your water or sewer system even before calling a plumber. We will assist you in determining the extent and validity of your concern. We respond 24/7 throughout the year. Please call (609)499-2518 between the hours 7:00AM & 3:30PM. For emergencies after 3:30PM and before 7:00AM, please call Burlington County Central Dispatch at (609)267-8300.

Monitoring and reporting of compliance data violations

TTHM and HAA5 samples were collected by our outside certified laboratory, Eurofins, but the samples were not properly analyzed and reported to the BSDW which triggered Routine Monitoring Major Violation. As a note, Florence Township has always been historically very low for TTHM and HAA5 sample results.

Additional Information for Lead

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Florence Township is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested.

Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Additional Information for Arsenic

While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Chlorine (as Cl2) (ppm)	4	4	1.68	.04	1.68	2017	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	.27	NA	.27	2017	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	5	NA	5	2017	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic Contaminants								
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	.15	NA	NA	2015	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Barium (ppm)	2	2	.443	NA	NA	2015	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Mercury [Inorganic] (ppb)	2	2	.037	NA	NA	2015	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from refineries and factories; Runoff from landfills; Runoff from cropland
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	1.3	NA	NA	2017	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	50	50	.84	NA	NA	2015	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines

Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	.828	2015	1	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants							
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	1.1	2015	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Additional Monitoring

As part of an on-going evaluation program the EPA has required us to monitor some additional contaminants/chemicals. Information collected through the monitoring of these contaminants/chemicals will help to ensure that future decisions on drinking water standards are based on sound science.

Name	Reported Level	Range	
		Low	High
chlorate (ppb)	29.15	23.24	35.05
chromium-6 (hexavalent chromium) (ppb)	.07	.06	.08
strontium (ppb)	76.47	72.75	80.18

Unit Descriptions	
Term	**Definition**
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	**Definition**
MCLG	MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

For more information please contact:

Contact Name: David Lebak
Address: 711 Broad Street
Florence, NJ 08518
Phone: 609-499-2518